

**The “Constructed Wetland” System realized in Narta, in the framework of  
UNDP ART GOLD Programme and IDEASS  
has become a priority of Albanian Government**

**September 2008**

**Prime Minister Berisha launches the Reform Plan for the Water Supply and Sewerage Sector in Albania**

The Central Government of Albania has taken a comprehensive approach to the needed reforms in the water supply and sewerage sector.

Attached to the Reform Plan document, it is provided the Implementation Time Schedule of wastewater treatment plants in Albania 2005-2010 including the “Constructed Wetland” System, natural depuration of waters realized in the Narta Municipality (Vlore Region), in a primary school. The project is realized in collaboration with GEF/UNDP (Global Environmental Fond) project, the UNDP/MedWetCoast Project, the Albanian Ministry of Environment and Local Authorities of Narta village, AULEDA (Local Economic Development Agency).

The natural water depuration pilot system represents an important step in the further implementation of this methodology, on a wider scale, in Albania, as a decentralized model. The pilot system consists in an innovative natural water purification process, realized with the technical assistance of the Regional Agency for the Environmental Protection of Tuscany (ARPAT). The “Constructed Wetlands” system takes advantage of a process that occurs spontaneously in nature, and it make use of biological agents to provide higher water purification levels.

The Albanian Government Strategy highlights sectoral reforms in the short term 2010, mid term until 2015 and long term until 2020. The main objectives of the reform include decentralization of ownership and operational responsibility. Measures to support reforms based on three main directions:

- Legal initiatives
- Administrative initiatives
- Project and funding initiatives

The Albanian Water Supply and Sewerage Association is conducting, on November 05-07 2008, its 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Exhibition in Tirana, “Waste Water Management in Albania, a Social, Environmental and Economic Mandate”.

The official invitation was forwarded to UNDP/ART GOLD Albania Programme and IDEASS Programme to participate in the most important event of the water sector, to make a professional presentation on the “Constructed Wetland” System realized in Narta’s School, Vlora Region and to have an exhibit space in this important event.

